

a firing-pin assembly situated at the rear end of the external barrel [,] and operatively connected to the external barrel [therewith, and];

means for an automatic piston return of the piston means from [its] the fastening position to [its] the firing position [,] and situated on a piston shank between the piston head and the fastener guide, wherein the [said] means for the automatic piston return is a one-piece elastic returning bush [(Z) made of elastomeric material in the] having a shape of [bellow, whose diameters both] bellows wherein external and internal diameters are regularly varied [,] creating uniformly spaced swellings and narrowings [of wave like structure] and wherein in the initial blocking position of the piston a sum of wall thicknesses of all segments created between neighboring narrowings and a length of the fastener guide is slightly larger than a sum of a length of the piston shank and a thickness of a fastener head.

2. (twice amended) [A] The power actuated piston tool, according to claim 1, wherein [the] walls of the one-piece returning bush [(Z)] are approximate in shape to a sinusoid, or to a stack of frusto-spherical segments, [or to a stack of frusto-conical segments,] or to a stack of barrel shape segments [and/or other surface of revolution segments].

3. (twice amended) [A] The power actuated piston tool, according to claim 2 , wherein [the maximal] a maximum internal diameter [(D4)] of at least one segment of the one-piece returning bush [(Z)] at its both ends [,] is [of] smaller [size] than [respective] a maximum diameter [(D2)] of [the] remaining segments of the one-piece returning bush.

4. (twice amended) [A] The power actuated piston tool, according to claim 2, wherein [the] end segment walls of the one-piece returning bush [(7)] are thicker than other segment walls of the one-piece returning bush.

5. (twice amended) [A] The power actuated piston tool, according to claim 2, wherein [the] an internal end surface of external segments of the one-piece returning bush [(7)] is markedly curved outside [in such a way, that the] thereby a position of a centre of curvature [points (71)] is clearly distanced from [the] a returning bush [(7)] face [(72)].

6. (twice amended) [A] The power actuated piston tool, according to claim 2, wherein the length of the returning bush [(7)] is selected in such a way, that after initial blocking, the piston shank [(1)] end face does not reach its extreme forward position and remains at a distance from the base [(30)], the distance greater than the head height of fastening element [(6)].

7. (twice amended) [A] The power actuated piston tool, according to claim 2, wherein the maximal external diameter [(D1)] of the returning bush [(7)] is smaller [enough] than the internal diameter of the guiding barrel [(2), that] and after initial blocking of the returning bush [(7)], its external diameter still remains smaller than the internal diameter of the guiding bush [(2)], thus preserving the small clearance.

8. (amended) A power operated piston tool with a piston automatic return comprising  
an outer barrel having a firing chamber at a [first] rear end;  
a guiding barrel being mounted in the outer barrel;

a fastener guide having an outer surface at a thin end and mounted at a thick part in the guiding barrel and with the thin end standing out from the outer barrel;

a piston provided with a piston head placed in the guiding barrel and a piston shank inserted in the fastener guide wherein the piston is movably positioned [between] from a firing position [and] via an initial blocking position to a fastening position;

a firing-pin assembly mounted at the [first] rear end of the outer barrel; and

a hollow element having a shape of bellows and causing [for] an automatic return of the piston from the fastening position to the firing position and situated on the piston shank between the piston head and the fastener guide and made of elastomeric material wherein an outer diameter of the [bellowslike] hollow element and an internal diameter of the [bellowslike] hollow element are regularly varied creating [uniformly spaced] swellings and narrowings running circularly on an outer surface and an inner surface of the [bellowslike] hollow element and wherein between each two neighboring narrowings is formed a segment with a sinusoidal or a frusta-spherical or a frusta-conical or a barrel wall contour and wherein in the initial blocking position of the piston a sum of wall thicknesses of all segments of the hollow element and a length of the fastener guide is slightly larger than a sum of a length of the piston shank and a thickness of a fastener head.

9. (amended) The power operated piston tool according to claim 8, wherein a maximal inner diameter of at least one said segment of the [bellowslike] hollow element situated at [its] both ends of the hollow element is smaller than an inner diameter of remaining segments of the hollow element.

10. (amended) The power operated piston tool according to claim 8, wherein walls of outer segments of the [bellowslike] hollow element are thicker than walls of inner segments of the hollow element.

11. (amended) The power operated piston tool according to claim 8, wherein an inner end surface of outer segments of the [bellowslike] hollow element is outwardly curved.

12. (amended) The power operated piston tool according to claim 8, wherein [a sum of wall thickness of all segments of the bellowslike hollow element and a length of the fastener guide is slightly larger than a sum of a length of the piston shank and a thickness of a fastener head thereby] a piston shank end face is distanced from the outer surface of the fastener guide slightly more than the thickness of the fastener head in [an] the initial blocking position of the piston.

13. (amended) A power operated piston tool with a piston automatic return comprising  
an outer barrel having a firing chamber at a [first] rear end;  
a guiding barrel being mounted in the outer barrel;  
a fastener guide having an outer surface at a thin end and mounted at a thick part in the guiding barrel and with the thin end [standing out] protruding from the outer barrel;  
a piston provided with a piston head placed in the guiding barrel and a piston shank inserted in the fastener guide wherein the piston is movably positioned between a firing position [and] via an initial blocking position to a fastening position;

a firing-pin assembly mounted at the [first] rear end of the outer barrel; and

a one-piece hollow element formed of segments and situated on the piston shank between the piston head and the fastener guide and made of elastomeric material wherein a sum of a length of the fastener guide and a length of the one-piece hollow element in a state when wall surfaces of neighboring segments of the one-piece element are in an introductory contact is slightly larger than a sum of a length of the piston shank and a thickness of a fastener head thereby a piston shank end face is distanced from the outer surface of the fastener guide slightly more than the thickness of the fastener head in [an] the initial blocking position of the piston.

14. (amended) The power operated piston tool according to claim 13, wherein [a] an internal wall surface and an outer wall surface of each segment of the segments of the one-piece hollow element has a sinusoidal profile.

15. (amended) The power operated piston tool according to claim 13, wherein [a] an internal wall surface and an outer wall surface of each segment of the segments of the one-piece hollow element has a [frustum of sphere] profile of a truncated spheroid.

16. (amended) The power operated piston tool according to claim 13, wherein [a] an internal wall surface and an outer wall surface of each segment of the segments of the one-piece hollow element has a profile of a frustum of a cone [profile].

17. (amended) The power operated piston tool according to claim 13, wherein [a] an internal wall surface and an outer wall

surface of each segment of the segments of the one-piece hollow element has a profile of a barrel [profile].

18. (amended) The power operated piston tool according to claim 13, wherein [a] an internal wall surface and an outer wall surface of each segment of the segments of the one-piece hollow element has a shape of a frustum of [barrel profile] sinusoidal revolution regular solid.

20. (amended) The power operated piston tool according to claim 13, wherein walls of outer segments of the one-piece hollow element are thicker than walls of inner segments of the one-piece hollow element.

#### **REMARKS**

Claims 1–20 are pending in the application. Claims 1 – 18 and 20 are being amended.

The language of the amended claims is based on the language of the original claims and the drawings.

#### **Priority**

1. The Office Action states that the receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119 (a) – (d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Applicants appreciate the statement in the Office Action that acknowledgement is made of the claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 (a) – (d) and that the certified copy has been received. Applicants are relying on this statement of the Office Action in view of the priority claims of the Applicants of record in the present application.